

## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 20, 2002

Contact: Mike Workman (619) 531-5450

## COUNTY TELEVISION NETWORK RECOGNIZED AS BEST IN CLASS First Place for Talk Show, Documentary, Community Event and Public Safety Programming

County Television Network (CTN), the local government access channel for the County of San Diego, last week received five first place awards for its government access programming, more first place awards than any other government access channel in the competition. The States of California & Nevada chapter of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (SCAN-NATOA) presented CTN with its annual First Place Star Awards for Best Talk Show ("Update San Diego: Otay Valley Regional Park," hosted by Supervisor Greg Cox); Public Safety ("Crime Lab"); Community Event ("San Pasqual Academy Opening"); Station/Program Promotions; and Documentary ("Backstage at the San Diego Opera").

CTN also received awards for its magazine program, "County Chronicles," and for another documentary on "The Felicita Story," the story of the namesake of Felicita County Park. The Star Awards were presented at SCAN-NATOA's annual conference in Santa Monica on Thursday, May 16. NATOA is the professional association of government cable television and access channel regulators and programmers. The Star Awards are the government television equivalent to the local Emmy Awards.

"Once again, CTN surpassed all other government access stations throughout California and Nevada," said Walt Ekard, the county's chief administrative officer. "CTN is bringing great programming to the citizens of San Diego County -- programming that other government and commercial television stations are noticing. If you haven't watched CTN lately, you're missing everything that's good about San Diego."

CTN placed first this year against the cities of San Diego, Los Angeles, Huntington Beach, Garden Grove, Foster City and Lakewood.

CTN is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on Time Warner 22, Adelphia 66, and Cox Cable Channels 19 (North) and 24 (South), although programming is not available in all areas at all times. CTN is funded with cable television franchise fees.

CTN's complete programming schedule is available on the web at www.ctn.org.

###